Construction of 20 Lakh Housing Units

3210. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA' : Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been facing challenges of constructing 20 lakh housing units every year;

(b) if so, what are the challenges in achieving this target; and

(c) what are the steps proposed to meet these challenges ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA) : (a) to (c) Sir, the task of constructing 20 lakhs housing units every year is challenging one. The National Housing and Human Settlement Policy 1998 States that the Govt.'s role should be that of an enabler. Therefore, the challeges that the Govt. of India faces are in creating an enabling fiscal/financial, legal/ regulatory and technical regime. Several steps to meet these challenges have been taken. The target of 2 million houses has been divided between rural and urban areas (rural 13 lakhs and urban 7 lakhs). Efforts have been made to make low cost finances available particularly for the poor. Transfer of cost effective environment-friendly building technology is being done through a network of 587 Building Centres & through Housing and Urban Development Corporation and Building Materials and Technology Promotion Council. Steps have been taken to make laws affecting housing more friendly to the sector.

Evalution of Poverty Alleviation Programmes

3211. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the major poverty alleviation programmes under implementation;

(b) the targets set and achivements made, State-wise, during the past three years;

(c) whether Government have conducted any evalution study to assess the viability of these programmes;